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stags, some of the monsters of the geologic past, and other hypertrophied organs of individual species and functions, even those of genius.

Die Psychosen des Pubertätsalters, von WALTER WILLE. Leipzig u. Wien, 1898. pp. 218.

We have here a careful description of 135 cases of psychic diseases during pubescence, which the author places between 14 and 23, which he has observed during the last fifteen years at the Insane Asylum of Basle. He concludes that there is no specific pubertal insanity, but that puberty gives a peculiar character to their psychoses, all of which may occur at this age. Atypic and mixed phases are unusually frequent. The most common hebephrenic traits are frequent and causeless changes of moods, a certain superficiality that prompts stupid jests in the midst of lamentations; expressions of world pain during the jolliest hours; sudden changes of thought form with the most bizarre construction of sentences; extravagance, talkativeness, echolalia; impulsiveness in action; a theatrical reference to spectators and other degenerative traits play the leading role here. Contradictions are frequent, and delusions of greatness and a sense of exaltation alternate with the most depressive unworthiness. Moreau specifies sudden changes from sadness to gaiety; spells of unusual activity; extreme confidence often combined with chorea and catalepsy. Regis thinks pubertal insanity, more often moral, shows itself in morbid acts and impulses rather than in the intellectual sphere. Savage says psychic abnormalities are like those of early childhood, only more expressed, and that all its many phases tend to issue in weakmindedness. At no time is dysmenorrhea so liable to intellectual disturbance. Blanford thinks violence more common than delusion and that St. Vitus Dance is characteristic. Trowbridge distinguishes between short duration and true psychoses, the latter being usually incurable. In all, periodicity with lucid intervals is common. Moral perversions of boys are prone to take the form of cruelty or crime, while girls are more liable to shameless and erotic perversity; while egotism and self satisfaction are common to both sexes.

Névroses et Idées Fixes, par PROF. F. RAYMOND et DR. PIERRE JANET. F. Alcan, Paris, 1898. Vol. I, pp. 492; Vol. II, pp. 559.

The first of these two heavy volumes, with sixty-eight cuts, is devoted to experimental studies on disturbances of will, attention, memory, emotion and fixed ideas; and the second, with ninety-seven cuts, describes clinical cases and gives suggestions as to treatment. The copious analytical index at the end permits ready reference to all the rich material. Few will perhaps agree with the somewhat extreme standpoint of the author, which describes so many and varied affectations as traceable directly and indirectly to fixed ideas, but it must be admitted that the cases tend to favor the views of the close association between mental and nervous disturbances. The strong point of the work is the interpretation of individual cases. The writer is fully alive to the partial truths that may be contained in the current notions of mental healing. Such topics as confusion, aboulia, emotive delirium, impulsive obsession, somnambulism, chorea, tics, visceral spasms, contractures, allochiria, subconscious hallucinations, hysterical hemianopsia, insomnia, due to fixed ideas and possession, are illustrated, and explanations of very suggestive, if not always conclusive, character, are given.

The Passing of Plato, by O. P. JENKINS. Stanford University Press, 1897. pp. 23.

Here is a Professor of Physiology in the Leland Stanford, Jr., Uni-

versity, who notes the fact that the Greeks originally were sympathetic lovers of nature, till Socrates and Plato, who, "with the purest and best of motives, unconsciously did the race a disservice that became a bar to progress for the ages to follow." The mind can make any hypothesis so there was no trouble to attain any required definitions, "and to defend the whole of these it was necessary to do away with the rest of the universe." These "innocent diversions of Plato," were followed by Aristotle, to whom "mental flights were more attractive than his studies of bugs and fishes." Then follow many other systems evolved from the "lazy philosophy of Plato," but pure thinking, which spread over the world like cobwebs over the lawn on a summer's day, all inspired by Plato. Despite many hopeful signs, these conceptions and methods hang like the old man of the sea upon the neck of the present. Now science is changing all this.

Any well trained student in the history of philosophy will recognize the partial truth of the above, and if he has read Lange's Positivism vs. Idealism, he may detect a similar spirit here, but the author's extreme onesidedness; the surprising lack of historical perspective; his failure to recognize one of the axioms of evolution as applied to man; to say nothing of the fact that Plato was never so much studied as to-day, and that by men as much in sympathy with physiological and biological sciences as himself, altogether make this a very strange note to be sounding at a university commencement.

Moderne Nervosität und ihre Vererbung, von CH. FÉRÉ. Berlin, 1898. pp. 284.

The influence of heredity upon the origin of mental and nervous diseases are—this assumes that there is no nervous disease not connected with anatomical change, and the author undertakes to apply the general laws of biology in this field to pathology. Many diseases and malformations are considered, and even epilepsy and hysteria, it is assumed, must have a physical and transmissible basis. To establish his thesis, the author at the outset makes very material qualifications of the extreme views of Weismann and his followers; lays considerable stress upon the mutability of nervous diseases, especially these transmitted from one generation to the next; and undertakes in some respects to suggest morbid equivalents. He believes that all degenerative tendencies can be successfully combated, provided there is a fit hygiene of propagation which consists mainly in systematic rest beforehand and the most favorable nutritive conditions. The author's repertory of casualistic material is large, and twenty interesting cuts of inherited abnormalities and deformities are given.

Archives of Neurology and Psychopathology. Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2. 1898.

This new archive is most sumptuously bound and printed, and is to be published in four annual numbers per volume, price, \$3 a year. It is to be published under the auspices of the New York State Hospital and the Pathological Institute, by permission of the State Commission in Lunacy. It is to be edited for the former by Drs. G. A. Blumer, C. W. Pilgrim and S. H. Talcott; and for the latter by Drs. Ira van Gieson, Boris Sidis and H. B. Deady. The longest and most important article in the present number is entitled, "The Correlation of Sciences in the Investigation of Nervous and Mental Diseases," by Ira van Gieson, which occupies about 235 pages. A briefer preliminary communication by Van Gieson and Sidis on "Neuron Energy and its Psychomotor Manifestations," makes up the entire number. The archives will contain studies on abnormal mental life and their neural concomitants based on psychology, psychopathology, experimental